

NUMBER TEN

The tenth issue! Not a world-shattering event, yet it ought not to go quite un-noticed.

The Journal began in July 1987. This first issue was largely the follow up of the founding conference at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge in March of that year. In these ten issues, the keen critic may notice a gaining in experience in pre-station; a sustained variety in content; an overall quality of material which must be highly pleasing to those who inspired its launch. I trust they can recognise with the arrival of number ten that the hopes they had in 1987 are being realised.

It is worth making use of this anniversary to pay tribute to the enormous amount of voluntary work that goes into the Journal's production and distribution. Without this, the cost of the Journal to the Membership would be vastly higher than it is. This voluntary effort includes the thought and time given by our Editor to recruiting material and shaping up the contents of the issues; by those who sit on the committees which advise him; by the proof readers who so often have to deal with galleys within a tight time schedule, doing this in the midst of full programmes of professional commitments; by the contributors themselves, preparing their articles and reviews, and getting them in on time. This represents a great deal of voluntary work, and this anniversary provides an opportunity both to recognise how well the Journal has developed in the course of these ten issues, and also to thank everyone who has helped.

Within this five year period, there has been achieved, beyond the regular January and July publishings, the successful binding of Vol I; the creation of the Index and Tables to accompany Vol I; the compiling of guide-lines to assist the good presentation of material. All these, too, are the products of voluntary help, and we express our appreciation to those who have shared in these points of the Journal's growth.

There are of course two consequences of being a voluntary society. There is the generation of good will – that is an immense bonus. On the other hand, the highest professional standards may be looked for – indeed, strained after – but they cannot always be achieved!

I am sure the Society warmly expresses its thanks to those who do so much for us, and wishes the Journal well for the next ten issues and beyond.

D.S.